

(d) the additional expenditure cost to SECL due to such bifurcation of cutting and loading?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) Since Surface Miner was to be deployed for the first time in South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (SECL) particularly at Gevra Project where Ex-servicemen Transport Agencies have already been deployed for transport and loading of coal, it was decided by SECL management that deployment of Surface Miner for cutting of coal only shall be done on open tender basis and the work of loading of coal into tippers and transportation thereon shall be executed through Ex-servicemen Transport Agencies. This arrangement was considered necessary to ensure coal production without interruption even in case of break down of Surface Miner, since Ex-Servicemen Agencies can be deployed for loading and transportation of coal produced by conventional method of mining.

(b) Against an open tender floated for this work, 14 (fourteen) parties had purchased the tender documents Offers were received from 7 (seven) parties and all the seven parties were found to be qualified bidders. Out of the seven qualifying bidders, one party, namely, M/s. Sainik Mining and Allied Services Ltd., a civilian contractor, emerged as L-1 party and the work was awarded to them after negotiation of the rates quoted by them.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply given to part (b) above.

(d) There was no additional expenditure to SECL due to bifurcation of cutting and loading of coal at Gevra OC.

Revival of Dankuni Coal Complex, CIL

1643. SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is considering revival of Dankuni Coal Complex, a unit of Coal India Limited;

(b) if so, the action taken so far by Government for the same;

(c) whether any capital investment is being considered for the revival; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) to (d) Dankuni Coal Complex (DCC) has submitted a proposal to South Eastern Coalfields Limited for increasing the gas production capacity at a proposed capital investment of Rs. 14.36 crores.

Penalties for using forest land in Chhattisgarh

1644. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a subsidiary of Coal India Limited has been asked by the Apex Court to pay penalties for continuing its operations in Chhattisgarh and using forest land there;

. (b) if so, the details of the penalties levied on the subsidiary company;

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the total penalty has been paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The final judgement of the Hon'ble Court in the matter is yet to come.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) A sum of Rs. 300 crores has been deposited by South Eastern Coalfields Limited to Central Empowered Committee, New Delhi as per directions of Supreme Court's order dated 8.9.2006 for continuing the mining operation. The final verdict of the Hon'ble Court is yet to come in the matter.

Policy on private sector ownership of coal mines

1645. SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of Government on private sector ownership of coal mines; and